

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant has amended claims 1-3 and 5-8.

Claims 1-10 are pending.

Matters of Form

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the Submission of Replacement Drawings filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 27, 2004.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Applicant has amended claims 1-3 and 5-8 to address the Examiner's concern described at page 2 of the Office Action. Claim 1 recites a semiconductor photodetector, including a semiconductor substrate formed with a plurality of pn junction type photodiodes on a side of the semiconductor substrate opposite from an incident surface of the semiconductor substrate for receiving light to be detected. A separate region including a pn junction, which is separate from the photodiodes, is formed between photodiodes adjacent each other in the plurality of photodiodes on the side of the semiconductor substrate opposite from the incident surface. Support for claim 1 is provided at, for example, paragraphs

0035 and 0046, and Fig. 2 of Applicant's specification, wherein an embodiment of Applicant's invention is described as including a plurality of pn junction type photodiodes 7 and a separate region including a pn junction 13 is formed between adjacent photodiodes. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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